

VISAS

Agreement signed at Paris April 6, 1945

Entered into force April 6, 1945

Replaced April 15, 1946, by agreement of April 5 and 8, 1946¹

Department of State files

The Government of the United States of America,
and the Provisional Government of the French Republic,
Desirous of facilitating the accomplishment of missions of their nationals
made in the common interest

Have decided to conclude an agreement and for that purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries, to wit:

The President of the United States of America:

His Excellency Mr. Jefferson Caffery, Ambassador of the United States of America to France;

The Provisional Government of the French Republic:

His Excellency Mr. Georges Bidault, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

who, having communicated to one another their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I

Entry visas for the metropolitan territory of each of the two countries, for French and American citizens, will be granted immediately by the diplomatic and consular authorities of the two countries, without reference to Paris or to Washington, in favor of bearers

- a) of diplomatic passports,
- b) of special passports of the United States and of French service passports.

ARTICLE II

Entry visas for the metropolitan territory of each of the two countries for French and American citizens will likewise be granted immediately and without being referred to Paris or to Washington, by the diplomatic and consular authorities of the two countries, to bearers of ordinary passports, whether or not government officials or employees, when the latter present

¹ *Post*, p. 1122.

a letter from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or the Department of State reading as follows:

"Mr. . . ., (Name, Christian names, address, etc.) holder of ordinary passport No. . . ., is authorized to proceed to France (the United States) in the discharge of a task of national importance to France and the United States."

In France, the latter document may be replaced by an order of mission or a ministerial authorization.

ARTICLE III

The special procedure provided under Articles 1 and 2 shall be extended to persons of the categories mentioned in these articles if, being citizens of France, they are in London and desire to proceed to the United States, or if, being American citizens, they are in London and desire to proceed to France.

In the first case, the visa will be issued immediately by the Embassy of the United States in London upon presentation of the French diplomatic or service passport. For bearers of ordinary French passports presenting the letter the text of which appears under Article 2, the American visa will be issued immediately by the Embassy of the United States in London if the interested parties have resided three years in England. If the period of residence is under three years, a decision with respect to the American visa will be taken within a maximum delay of ten days.

In the second case, the French visa will be issued by the French Embassy in London to bearers of American diplomatic, special and ordinary passports under the same conditions as those provided in the preceding paragraph for bearers of the different categories of French passports.

ARTICLE IV

The letter the text of which appears under Article 2 and which is mentioned in Article 3, will be issued in London by the qualified Embassy acting in behalf of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or the Department of State.

ARTICLE V

The present agreement will become effective upon signature and will remain in force until its denunciation by one or the other of contracting parties.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the above-mentioned plenipotentiaries have signed the present agreement and have hereunto affixed their seals.

Done at Paris, on the sixth of April 1945, in duplicate, in the French and English languages, both texts having equal force.

JEFFERSON CAFFERY [SEAL]

G. BIDAULT [SEAL]